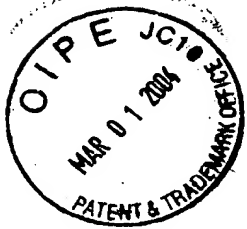


03-03-04

Image

AF/1634



MAFF-1 RCE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Hirohiko Hirochika et al.  
Application No. : 09/721,114 Confirmation No. : 2997  
Filing Date : November 22, 2000  
For : NOVEL GENE INVOLVED IN BRASSINOSTEROID  
RESPONSES  
Group Art Unit : 1634  
Examiner : Juliet C. Switzer

New York, New York  
March 1, 2004

Hon. Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

NOTICE OF APPEAL

Sir:

Applicants hereby appeal to the Board of Appeals from the decision of the  
Primary Examiner mailed October 3, 2003 in which the rejection of claim 1 was made final.

A check in the amount of \$330.00 in payment of the fee required under 37  
C.F.R. § 1.17(b) is enclosed herewith.

Applicants submit concurrently herewith a Petition Under 37 C.F.R. §  
1.136(a) and a check for the \$420.00 fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(2) to extend the  
time for filing this Notice up to and including March 3, 2004. Thus, this Appeal is timely  
filed.

03/05/2004 CNGUYEN 00000071 09721114

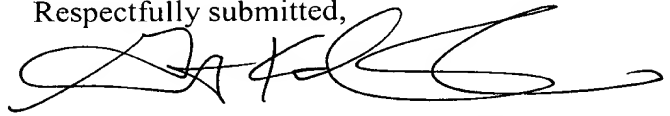
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330.00 OP

EF230791348US

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or to credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1075. A duplicate copy of this Notice is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



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James F. Haley, Jr. (Reg. No. 27,794)  
Attorney for Applicants  
Grant Kalinowski (Reg. No. 48,314)  
Agent for Applicants

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